insides of the coffins with
pleated cambrics or
costlier stuffs, accord-
ing to the requirements
of the customers. We
talked & sang by the
hour while we made
~~flo~~ casques of flowers
or wreathed immortelles.
Sometimes, as she wrought
with her nimble needle
upon a shroud, she
would tell me the simple
history of the person who
was to wear it; for it
was but a little village,
& she knew all about
everybody. All day long
the music of her father's
plane was heard in the
back shop, & we lived in
an atmosphere of deep

~~[illegible]~~

peace & contentm
I learned to arran
the coffins in the f
shop so as to get the
effects, grading the
rows with festoo
crape ~~so thick~~ depe
from immortell
fastened against
walls, with here & t
soft white shrou
the intervals finely
ished coffin plates
reflected the sunl
almost like mir
I took care of the
& was often allowe
drive the hearse.
was no rival in our
ness in the village.
had it all.

But by & by there